

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5535–S5638

Measures Introduced: Seventeen bills and six resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3119–3135, S.J. Res. 40–41, S. Res. 592–594, and S. Con. Res. 90. **Page S5592**

Measures Reported:

H.R. 3480, To direct the United States Sentencing Commission to assure appropriate punishment enhancements for those involved in receiving stolen property where that property consists of grave markers of veterans.

S. Res. 576, designating August 2008 as “Digital Television Transition Awareness Month”. **Page S5592**

Measures Passed:

Tennessee Valley Authority 75th Anniversary: Senate agreed to S. Res. 592, commending the Tennessee Valley Authority on its 75th anniversary. **Page S5636**

Honoring Detroit Red Wings: Senate agreed to S. Res. 593, honoring the Detroit Red Wings on winning the 2008 National Hockey League Stanley Cup Championship. **Pages S5636–38**

Mackinac Island State Park Commission’s Historical Preservation and Museum Program 50th Anniversary: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of H. Con. Res. 325, celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Mackinac Island State Park Commission’s Historical Preservation and Museum Program, which began on June 15, 1958, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S5638**

Measures Considered:

Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act: Senate resumed consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 3101, to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to extend expiring provisions under the Medicare program, to improve beneficiary access to preventive and mental health services, to enhance low-

income benefit programs, and to maintain access to care in rural areas, including pharmacy access. **Pages S5539–64**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 54 yeas to 39 nays (Vote No. 149), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S5564**

Senator Reid entered a motion to reconsider the vote by which the motion to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill (listed above) failed. **Page S5564**

Subsequently, the motion to proceed was withdrawn. **Page S5564**

Renewable Energy and Job Creation Act: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 6049, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives for energy production and conservation, to extend certain expiring provisions, to provide individual income tax relief. **Pages S5564–65**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, June 12, 2008, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, June 16, 2008. **Pages S5564–65**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, June 16, 2008; provided that the time until 5:30 p.m. be equally divided and controlled between the Leaders, or their designees; and that the final 20 minutes divided between the Majority and Republican Leaders, with the Majority Leader controlling the final 10 minutes. **Page S5636**

Signing Authority—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senator Tester be authorized to sign the enrollment of H.R. 6124, Food, Conservation, and Energy Act. **Page S5575**

Emergency Extended Unemployment Compensation Act—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding an adjournment of the Senate on Friday, June 13, 2008, that H.R. 5749, to provide for a program of emergency unemployment compensation, be considered to have received a second reading, an objection made to further proceedings, and the bill be placed on the Senate calendar. **Page S5638**

Nomination Received: Senate received the following nomination:

Matthew S. Petersen, of Utah, to be a Member of the Federal Election Commission for a term expiring April 30, 2011. **Page S5638**

Messages from the House: **Page S5591**

Measures Placed on the Calendar:
Pages S5535, S5591–92, S5638

Measures Read the First Time: **Pages S5592, S5638**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S5592**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S5593–94**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S5594–S5634

Additional Statements: **Pages S5590–91**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S5634–35**

Authorities for Committees to Meet:
Pages S5635–36

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S5636**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—149) **Page S5564**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 7:49 p.m., until 2 p.m. on Monday, June 16, 2008. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5638.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NATION'S INFRASTRUCTURE

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the condition of the infrastructure of the United States, focusing on local perspectives from certain cities, including S. 1926, to establish the National Infrastructure Bank to provide funding for qualified infrastructure projects, after receiving testimony from Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg, New York, New York; Mayor Shirley Franklin, Atlanta, Georgia; Mayor John Peyton, Jacksonville, Florida; and Mayor Mark Funkhouser, Kansas City, Missouri.

FREIGHT SECURITY

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety, and Security concluded a hearing to examine supply chain security, focusing on the Secure Freight Initiative and the implementation of 100 percent scanning of U.S.-bound cargo containers, after receiving testimony from Jayson Ahern, Deputy Commissioner, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security; David Huizenga, Assistant Deputy Administrator, Office of International Material Protection and Cooperation, Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation, National Nuclear Security Administration, Department of Energy; and Stephen L. Caldwell, Director, Homeland Security and Justice, Government Accountability Office.

RENEWABLE FUELS POLICY AND FOOD PRICES

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the relationship between the United States renewable fuels policy and food prices, after receiving testimony from Alexander Karsner, Assistant Secretary of Energy for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy; Joseph Glauber, Chief Economist, Department of Agriculture; Joe L. Outlaw, Texas A&M University Agricultural and Food Policy Center, College Station; Jason Pyle, Sapphire Energy, Inc., San Diego, California; Joachim von Braun, International Food Policy Research Institute, Washington, D.C.; and Jack Huttner, Genecor, Rochester, New York.

U.S. TRADE PREFERENCE PROGRAMS

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the United States trade preference programs, focusing on promoting economic development in poor nations by providing duty-free export opportunities in the United States, after receiving testimony from Loren Yager, Director, International Affairs and Trade, Government Accountability Office; Grant D. Aldonas, Split Rock International, Arlington, Virginia; and Edward Gresser, Progressive Policy Institute, and Andrew Small, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Department of Justice, Peace, and Human Development, both of Washington, D.C.

OIL AND NATURAL GAS PIPELINE

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the influence of energy issues on the foreign policy of the United States, focusing on the East-West oil and natural gas pipeline corridor proposed to stretch from Central Asia to European and global markets, after receiving testimony